

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the following inventions:

- I Claims 30-67, drawn to an insulation material;
- II Claims 68-76, drawn to a method of making an insulation material.

Furthermore, the Examiner requests that an Election of Species directed to the following patentably distinct species be made:

- (i) Binder:
 - (1) a nanoparticle
 - (2) a polycondensate or a precursor (claims 53-55)
 - (3) a combination of a precursor and nanoparticle (claim 56)
- (ii) Nanoparticle:
 - (1) a nanoparticle with surface modification (claims 47-52)
 - (2) a nanoparticle without surface modification (claims 44-46)
- (iii) Pore Former:
 - (1) a hollow particle (claims 58 and 61)
 - (2) an intumescent agent (claim 60)
 - (3) a particle (claims 59, 62 and 63).

ELECTION

In response to the Restriction and Election of Species Requirements, Applicants elect the invention set forth in **claims 30-67** (the invention of **Group I** as identified in the Restriction Requirement), a **polycondensate or a precursor** as species (i), a **nanoparticle with surface**

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modification as species (ii) and **a hollow particle** as species (iii). Currently at least claims 30-43, 47-55, 57-59, 61 and 63-67 read on the elected species.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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